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MONTANA
FARM LABOR REPORT

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MECHANIZED HAY HARVEST
BOZEMAN AREA

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POTATO HARVEST-ANACONDA AREA

ES - 225

PREPARED BY FARM LABOR SECTION
OF THE MONTANA STATE EMPLOYMENT SERVICE

JESS C. FLETCHER, DIRECTOR

A DIVISION OF THE UNEMPLOYMENT
COMPENSATION COMMISSION OF MONTANA

EDGAR H. REEDER, CHAIRMAN

REX F. HIBBS, COMMISSIONER

JAMES J. FLAHERTY, COMMISSIONER

BILLINGS AREA

MODERN BEET WORKER MACHINERY DOES IT

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BILLINGS AREA

CHEYENNE INDIANS HARVEST
THE CORN

PICK TILL WE BUST

WATCH THE CORN FLY

CHEYENNE AUTUMN

PART I
ANNUAL SUMMARY

PLANNING

Changes in Administrative Organization

No changes were made in administrative organization during the 1963 season. The O and M "plans of action" are prepared by each local office on a quarterly basis, thereby enabling each office to prepare pre-season plans thirty days prior to the seasonal activities.

Pre-Season and In-Season Meetings

State and local office Farm Placement personnel participated in growers' and processors' pre-season meetings.

Farm Placement personnel, as heretofore, continued to work throughout the year with county and state Extension Services, Montana State Department of Agriculture, Agricultural Stabilization and Conservation County Committees and local farm organizations.

Special arrangements for Recruitment are made in cooperation with other Government Agencies in other states.

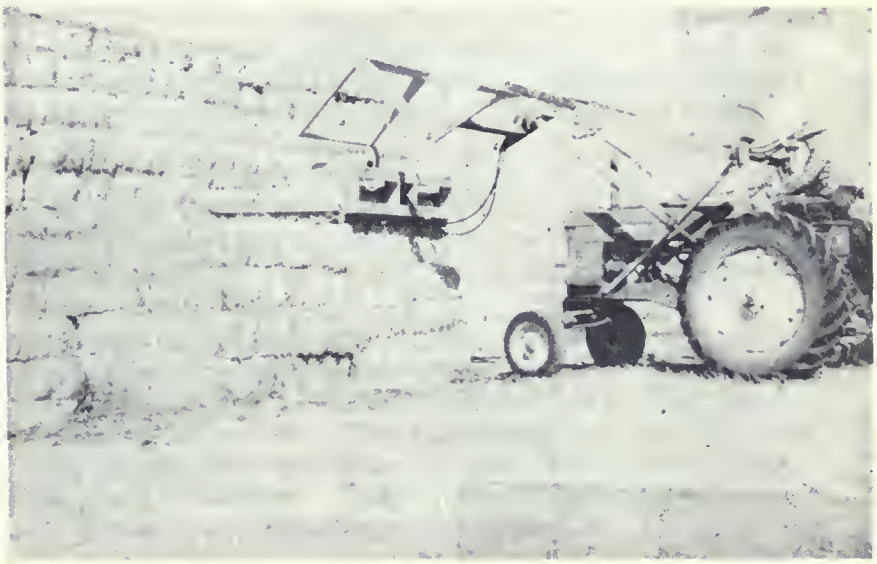
Orders for sugar beet workers were placed in clearance with the state of Texas. In accordance with an agreement of several years, the Colorado Agency recruited workers in Texas for sugar companies in Montana. Several crews were obtained from Arizona.

A special program for youths was contiuned over the previous year in sugar beet activity. Crews were smaller and more streamlined. Average earnings were greater this year. The program was successful with some problems developing. The program is active in all agricultural reporting areas except the wheat area 9=27-04.

Indians from nearby reservations were recruited for the sweet corn and potato harvests.

BOZEMAN AREA

LET'S HAY THE EASY WAY
WHY USE PEOPLE?



ECONOMIC TRENDS

Major changes in the agricultural economy which had an impact on employment were, first of all an exceptional wet cool June which resulted in damaging floods in some areas. Ironically the north central area which has been daught stricken the last six years received an over abundance of moisture both in June and late summer this postponing the grain and hay harvests. Turnover in the youth beet program was normal exception in western areas where weed growth was a factor. Crop production was near record again. Harvest weather was good in the eastern areas but cool wet weather hampered harvests in the western areas. Frost arrived in good time for potato and beet harvests but not extensive enough to cause damage. Stock were returned to winter ranges under normal conditions. Yields on hay and grain were above normal for the second season. The June floods destroyed considerable livestock in western areas but very little hay and grain were damaged. The general harvest of all crops was above average. Tonnage was up on sugar beets for the second season.

Due to an excellent harvest season, hired workers declined very little from the 1963 work force. The largest demands were in wheat, other small grains and hay harvests. Beet thinning and pulling of weeds was normal except in western areas where weed growth was heavier. Harvests were later than the previous year due to delays from wet weather. Beet and potato harvests had ideal conditions and were not delayed. Nothing was damaged by frost and some areas noted an increase in farm employed, wages and mechanical improvements. Adverse weather caused schedule changes on labor in some areas resulting in shortages and excesses at times.

Hay and harvest hands were in demand but also were amply taken care of by recruitment. It was a banner year in farm employment much as was the previous year. However, a small decline of demands are noted throughout the state similar to the national decline.

There was no major changes in land utilization in 1964 brought about by participation in production and acreage control programs of the U. S. Department of Agriculture, nor has expansion of urban development into rural areas caused large significant changes.

EMPLOYMENT TRENDS

A. Seasonal Hired Farm Workers

Local labor is generally male Caucasian, and operates machinery such as tractors hay balers trucks and small grain combines. They also perform non-agricultural work, as heavy equipment operators, truck drivers, and construction labor.

Females of Caucasian race work as ranch couples or singly as ranch cooks. Non-agricultural employment is generally as cook in a cafe or domestic work. In western Montana, housewives work in the small fruit and berry harvests.

High School youths of both sexes are recruited to hoe and thin sugar beets. Approximately 7,500 interstate male workers are employed in agricultural activities of small grains, haying, and livestock activities. They are of the Caucasian race single or unattached. These workers are mostly from California, Idaho, Michigan, Minnesota, Nebraska, North and South Dakota, Oregon, Washington, Wyoming, and Colorado. They also perform non-agricultural work as truck drivers and construction laborers.

Cut Bank Pioneer

Cut Bank—Oil Capital of Montana

ume 56 | Cut Bank, Glacier County, Montana, August 20, 1964

IT'S HARVEST TIME

AND TIME TO CALL YOUR

MONTANA STATE EMPLOYMENT SERVICE

TO HELP SOLVE YOUR LABOR NEEDS

The employment service at 116 East Main has a supply of harvest hands available now. There are truck drivers, combine operators, laborers and custom machines listed now.

Call 938-2191 Today

And insure yourself that you will have sufficient help when needed.

*

THE CUT BANK office of the Montana State Employment Service is promoting farm and ranch hiring for the winter months. Manager Don Crail stated today that his office mailed 78 letters to agricultural employers in Glacier County. Crail says there will be a large number of job seekers out of work within the next few weeks and part of these people will be looking for farm and ranch jobs.

The employment keeps on record vital information con cerning worker's background, which is available to employers. This information includes name, SS number, age, marital status, service record and a complete work history when possible. The main goal of the employment service is to find gainful employment for people. The office is at 116 E. Main and open from 8 am to 5 pm. Call 938-2191 if you are in need of help.

*

Approximately 3,173 interstate workers are employed in the hoeing and thinning of sugar beets. These workers are primarily family groups, and both sexes 14 years and older work. Their main occupation is that of a vegetable farm laborer. The majority of these workers are from Texas and are of Mexican descent.

Approximately 1,372 male single or unattached workers are from Mexico. Their occupation is sugar beet farmhand.

The most significant shortages of seasonal farm workers were in the thinning and hoeing of sugar beets. Mexican Nationals were used to supplement domestic workers. Domestic workers who were available for this activity were from the State of Texas.

Due to lack of pay commensurate with other work activities, lack of unemployment insurance and excessive travel to reach certain areas in Montana, and the distance to subsequent jobs Montana is unable to recruit sufficient domestic workers.

There were no significant surplus of seasonal farm workers. The influx was normal; some shortages existed at times but for no significant period of time.

Regular Hired Farm Workers.

The livestock and dry land small grain activities are the major crops that employ regular hired farm workers. The general trend of employment for 1964 was above previous years. Due to exceptional weather conditions agricultural activities prospered as a whole.

Mechanization is having its inroads and does decrease needs in some activities, such as mechanized feed lots etc. However, better farming methods and scientific know-how is producing more from acreages. The hay and potato harvest increased in mechanization.

Dry land and small grain farms continue to increase in size with the result that more farm machinery is being used. This is true especially in the eastern part of the state. Small acreages persist in western Montana. Many of the larger farms are maintaining large equipment and repair sheds, thus creating demands for skilled mechanical help and heavy machinery operators.

Food Processing Workers

Montana has insignificant food processing activities in relation to the general agricultural activities. Part-time workers are hired in the sugar processing areas and in one cannery area. These activities pose no employment problems since part-time workers and housewives are in ample supply.

IMPACT OF MECHANIZATION AND OTHER CHANGES IN PRODUCTION METHODS

The growing care, and processing of sugar beets has been considered the main crop mechanized to the most significant degree in recent years. The harvest as heretofore mentioned in the previous report is about 100 per cent mechanized, and thinning around 45 per cent. Considerable care in the planting of the seeds is important for the subsequent use of mechanical thinners. Seeds of the monogerm type must be placed in the ground at a pre-determined depth and interval of space. The size of the beet seed and cells of the plate in the planter must match. The equipment is simple in construction and does not require specialized knowledge to repair.

GLENDIVE AREA

4 Pages

RANGER - REVIEW

Glendive, Montana — Thursday, February 27, 1964

Price 1

MECHANIZED BEET HARVEST

rsday, Feb. 27, 1964

s For Increased ng Of Students

s are being made for sed use of high school ts in the sugar beet again this year, Harley manager of the Glendive ymcnt Service Office re- today.

indications are that the f Mexican workers will in the near future and d-up hiring of local rs will be necessary if equate supply of help is available for the farm- efinite commitments have een made yet as to the to be paid or plans for ortation and supervision, eetings are being held and arrangements should be eted well in advance of te the teenage crews will eded, Dyer said.

r student, 14 years of age der, who is interested in ng in the sugar beet fields year should contact the ive Employment Service n as possible so that an te estimate of the num- f workers available can rnished to the growers ugar companies involved.

In recent years wheat farms have been reduced in number but have doubled in size. This has resulted in the use of larger mechanical equipment for soil preparation, seeding, and summer fallowing, and consequently caused a reduction in the man-hours of work for these activities. The hay pick-up baler and loader has become widely used in most areas of Montana.

Since crops in general were as productive in 1964 as in 1963, there were about the same labor requirements as the preceding year. A part of this, however, was due to mechanization. It appears mechanization will be eliminating many hundreds in the next four or five years should the present advancement in machinery accelerate as it has been. It is anticipated that the hoeing and thinning of sugar beets will be eliminated in the above-mentioned period. In fact, much thinning has been eliminated so far. Through the use of the monogerm seed, space planting could eventually become a reality, and further developments in the use of herbicides for positive weed control would eliminate any need for hand labor. The workers affected would be the domestic migrant composed of family groups of all ages and sexes. This would also eliminate the need for Mexican Nationals. Local youth, too, would be affected.

Regular Hired Farm Workers

It is becoming increasingly necessary that regular farm workers acquire skills in the operation and repair of farm equipment which requires advanced knowledge of operation and repair. Employers expect them to be skilled in operating and repairing the larger tractors and other machinery used in seeding, cultivating, spraying, and harvesting. While most regular workers have these skills, it does require that the new entrant into this work possess higher mechanical skills.

RECRUITMENT OF FARM WORKERS

Radio, television, newspaper publicity, letters, and posters were utilized by the local offices to obtain the maximum supply of local seasonal farm workers. Excellent results were obtained.

Five local offices conducted school registrations to recruit youth for work in sugar beets. During 1965, this technique and program will be used in five beet area offices; but plans are being formulated to streamline the program and eliminate, as far as possible, the problems which to some extent hampered the 1964 program.

Volunteer Farm Placements Representatives were used in each local office area. Where possible, VFPR's made placements from local sources, or transmitted unfilled orders to local offices for action. Farmers and ranchers were advised of their local VFPR through local newspapers, radio, posters, and by direct promotional mail from the local offices. While all VFPR's were not 100 per cent effective, it is planned to continue this activity in 1965.

As heretofore, the local labor supply was not sufficient to meet the demand for regular hired farm workers. Inter-office clearance was used for some occupations.

Montana Participated in the Annual Worker Plan

As an order-holding state, Montana received 489 scheduled crews and family heads involving 3773 workers. On the basis of actual contacts with the crews and examination of the ES-369's, the services rendered are reflected in Table 4 of this report.

Providing Better Living Conditions Reduces Farm Employment Problem

Providing better living and sanitary conditions for hired help has greatly reduced employment problems of many farmers and ranchers in recent years, according to Roy O. Young, Montana State Employment Service representative at Great Falls.

Increased mechanization and the trend to fewer but larger farms have reduced need of hired help. At the same time, this development has created a demand for better qualified workers.

To meet this demand, the qualified type of worker has to be convinced the farm and ranch is a good place to work. Only about 138 working days a year are required to complete farming activities, but during this period rainy weather is often experienced.

It has been found that many houses and bunkhouses did not meet minimum standards of livability. Many were without heating equipment, insulation, weathertight roofs and windows, running water and washing and sanitary facilities.

In spite of improvements in recent years, much is still needed for the comfort of the itinerant worker, Young said.

To assist farmers and ranchers, the Farmers Home Administration provides rural housing loans to construct or repair housing and sanitary facilities for tenants or farm help.

Farmers and ranchers are being helped to solve their employment problems in another way.

A training course under the Manpower Development and Training Act to help develop the abilities of farm and ranch hands in operation and maintenance of modern farm machinery is in the developing stages.

This course will consist of operation of all types of wheel and crawler tractors, the various uses of different types of implements and proper maintenance and minor repair of the equipment.

Another basic problem has been wages. According to comparisons made with neighboring states, which have been showing wage increases, most Montana area farm and ranch pay has been fairly stable. This, of course, has had a tendency to stop emigration of qualified workers from other states.

Montana had the lowest increase in wages from 1914 to 1961 of 15 Western and Midwestern states. This is one reason why the influx of better qualified workers from other states is continuing to decline.

GOOD HOUSING

Montana recruited no Puerto Ricans; however, a small crew of Puerto Ricans are hired in the Dillon area each year through private sources.

Housing

One hundred seventy one housing inspections were made. These cannot, however, be directly related to interstate recruitment. This is due to the fact that when inspections are made prior to occupancy, and until domestic recruitment is completed, it is not possible to determine whether housing will be occupied by domestic families or groups of single foreign workers. All housing is basically family type, on farm, necessitating a dual determination of suitability.

All agency inspections are made as a part of the regular program of field visiting. About 1,350 housing units are occupied at some time during the eight-week period that migratory labor is employed in large numbers.

State housing regulations are under the administration of the State Board of Health, Division of Environmental Sanitation. That agency limits participation in inspection, but the Department is ready to investigate complaints and does test water sources.

No difficulties have been encountered in arranging co-operation. There has not been any instance when, after attempts to secure improvement or unsatisfactory housing by other means, the State Board of Health has not taken appropriate action.

Wages

Periodic wage field surveys were made, along with regular employer contacts. Domestic migrant workers are recruited for spring beet work. Minimum wage rates per acre are fixed by public hearing. Since there is no comparable activity before or during the period of recruitment, field surveys were made during the working period.

The wage rate per acre system of renumeration causes wage survey difficulties above those found in most piece rate surveys. Field surveys were supplemented by examination of payroll records of growers and local office orders.

Foreign Workers

Mexican National workers were brought in to supplement domestic workers in the sugar beet pre-harvest activities only. Most of the Mexican Nationals were used between May 10th and July 15th. The peak employment was on June 15th.

There were no organizational, administrative or procedural changes, or special programs developed with respect to the use of Mexican Nationals. No problems were encountered. There was a reduction of 836 Nationals, an increase of 747 domestics.

In the pre-season process of surveying the expected supply and demand for seasonal farm labor, each local office considers trends in production, employment, the labor market, mechanization, and other factors expected to influence the requirements and supply of labor. Local office records, such as agricultural orders, ES-223 In-Season Farm Labor Reports, and other records are utilized. Contacts are made with grower associations, processors, county agents, and other government agencies interested in agriculture.

HAVRE AREA

COMBINE OPERATORS & TRUCKDRIVERS
COMBINE TO HARVEST THE HARDWHEAT
COUNTRY

Periodic wage surveys were made. The surveys were made in the field while the work was being performed. Wage rates paid contract Mexican Nationals were not included in the survey data. Local offices posted "Notices of Prevailing Wage Rates" in Post Offices and other public places in the area of jurisdiction where foreign workers were employed. The wage survey findings equaled or exceeded the U.S.D.A. rate of fair and reasonable wages.

Lake, Flathead, Granite, Deer Lodge, Park, Musselshell and Revalli Counties are the rural development areas under the Area Redevelopment Act during the calendar year 1964. All seven Indian Reservations in the state are also included. The Montana State Employment Service assisted with community and reservation committees in developing an Overall Economic Development Plan. The plan was approved during 1962. The Montana Agency participated in special surveys of underemployment and unemployment in rural areas, as well as provided routing employment data to be used in economic plans for rural development. A training program for farm hands was completed on the Crow Indian Reservation.

There were no problems related to housing, transportation, wages, health and medical facilities, or food which have interfered with recruitment and placement of local or migratory workers.

PUBLIC RELATIONS

State and local office personel participated in farm organization meetings, Chamber of Commerce, civic groups, and public schools to strengthen public understanding of the Agency's Farm Placement Program. Generally, the method is roundtable or informal discussion from the floor.

Newspaper, radio, and television is used to disseminate farm labor market information. All local offices regularly prepare news releases designed for listener and reader appeal. Thousands of farm and harvest bulletins are mailed each year.

EVALUATION AND RECOMMENDATIONS

Placement totals increased over the preceding year. Moisture, growing and harvesting conditions were very good, especially in the eastern part of the State where yield records were broken. This increase was due to a better cherry crop in Polson and Kalispell, although rain damage ruined a large percentage. Activities, especially in livestock, grain farming and haying were up from the previous year. Low cattle prices had it's effect as well as de sastrous flood damage in the spring. The "Youth in Sugar Beet Program" was decreased due to resistance of youth workers to wages paid plus grower and processor resistance in certain areas. Six of the nine sugar beet areas had a youth program. The use of supplemental foreign labor was not reduced to a significant extent as growing and crop conditions were very good. As problems are solved, it is expected mechanization and domestics can and will replace the foreign labor program with the termination of the Mexican National program in the thinning of sugar beets.

Every effort will be made to fully utilize local sources of labor, particularly in counties designated for rural development under the Area Redevelopment Act.

KALISPELL CHERRIES

The 1963 cherry crop froze out early. Warm weather in December and a sudden drop in temperature in January obliterated the whole crop. The Set for 1964 looked good. The bloom was a week late, but was very heavy and a bumper crop was in the making. By mid July it was evident that the 1964 crop would be one of the largest cherry crops in the history of the Flathead Valley. Trees were hanging almost to the ground, all the orchards were employing props to hold the heavy loads on the trees; all in all it was sure to be a record crop. Even though Oregon and Washington were experiencing difficulty harvesting their crops, due to late season and rain, the Montana State Employment Service at Kalispell was successful in recruiting adequate labor to harvest the Flathead crop. Oregon and Washington offices cooperated by accepting and referring pickers on a clearance order for 300 pickers, submitted by the Kalispell Office. Pickers from Oregon and Washington arrived and were immediately placed by the farm labor station at Yellow Bay. Everything was pointing to a banner year in cherries.

The Cherry Growers Association was set up to handle everything the orchards could throw at them. The A.D. Paddison Trucking Co., of Yakima, specialists in the transporting of fruit, was hired to haul the crop to the packing sheds in Kalispell. This operation was proving to be a fast and efficient method of handling fruit. The handling of the fruit was cut by three quarters and the cost of hauling was also cut to a minimum. The Cherry Growers were well pleased with this trucking operation as it eliminated the hand loading at the dock. The cherries were loaded on a pallett only once and were handled from then on by fork lift and by the strato lift truck. Everything was pointing to a very successful year.

KALISPELL CHERRIES

Picking of the main Lambert crop got under way on July 27th, with some to start the latter part of the week.

Cherries, like any other crop, demand good weather for harvest. A heavy rain can ruin a crop of ripening cherries overnight. It is very disheartening to sit by and watch tons of ripe cherries split open and be ruined. This is exactly what happened on July 30th. Heavy showers at first, then a steady rain set in. After the first showers, growers set to work to dry out the orchards by blowing off the water with their power sprayers. A helicopter was also pressed into use, but there were not enough sprayers and the helicopter had too many orchards to cover. Growers with sprayers worked all night blowing the trees only to have the rain start again the next day. The large portion of the crop was ruined. Migrant pickers who had experienced this same thing in other areas left in a hurry to find another crop to harvest. The Flathead cherry crop was ruined. Tons of cherries are still hanging on the trees. The cherries that were not split were so full of water they had lost their flavor and could not stand to be shipped long distances. U-pick signs went up all along the road and local people went in to pick what cherries were salvagable.

Raising any crop is hazardous, fruit is more so. The set for next year looks good and the cherry growers are again preparing for another bumper crop. We will be there, cherries require pickers, and pickers have to be recruited, so our office will again play a big part in harvesting the crop for 1965.

HAULING CHERRY CRATES

PART II
OUTLOOK FOR COMING YEAR

STATE FORECAST

The outlook on agricultural employment for Montana in 1965 is that employment is expected to be on par with 1964, pending similar weather conditions. However, since 1964 was a record moisture year, it could be that employment will decline perhaps to the extent of several hundred workers. Should moisture be sufficient, employment should not change to a significant degree. With usual winter conditions, the later part of the year, some pickup should occur in feeding operations.

AREA FORECAST
AREA 9-28.01

Western Fruit & Sugar Beets

Agricultural Reporting Area 9-28-01, Western Fruit and Sugar Beets (Flathead, Lake, Missoula, Ravalli, Granite, Powell, Lewis and Clark, Jefferson, Broadwater, and Meagher Counties).

The farm labor outlook for the coming year should be the same as for 1964 provided weather conditions are similar. Local and migratory labor should be available for all activities including sugar beet thinning and hoeing. Sugar beet acreage should be approximately the same, with some adjustments for youth crews which will be used to supplement the local and migratory workers. The exception would be that a normal cherry crop is expected with hopes of no rain damage destruction as was experienced in 1964.

The crop activities and approximate time periods involved are:

Soil preparation and seeding	April - May
Sugar beet thinning, hoeing, weeding	May - August
Haying	June - September
Irrigating	May - August
Small fruit harvest	July - August
Small grain harvest	August
Potato harvest	September
Sugar beet harvest	September-October
Livestock seasonal activities	January-December

AREA 9-28.02

Southern Sugar Beets

Agricultural Reporting Area 9-28.02, Southern Sugar Beet (Golden Valley, Musselshell, Stillwater, Yellowstone, Treasure, Carbon, and Big Horn Counties).

Again the weather will be the deciding factor. It is expected labor requirements will be near those of 1964. The supply and demand for labor in irrigated activities will be aproximately the same as last year. Local and migratory labor is expected to meet demands in all activities including sugar beets. A portion of the demand will be met through youth groups in the thinning, hoeing, and weeding of sugar beets. Migrant domestic workers will be available for other states following the completion of thinning and hoeing of sugar beets in July.

KALISPELL CHERRIES

MECHANICAL LIFT--CHERRY CRATES

A LOVELY PICKER

SPRAYING BY HELICOPTOR

ES FARM LABOR INFORMATION
OFFICE

The activities and approximate time periods involved:

Crop Activities	Periods Involved:
Spring soil preparation and seeding	April - May
Sugar beet thinning, hoeing, weeding	May 15 - July 31
Haying	June - August
Irrigation	June - September
Fallowing	May - August
Small grain harvest	July - August
Sweet corn harvest	August 15 - September 15
Field corn harvest	August
Sugar beet harvest	September - October
Livestock seasonal activities	January - December

AREA 9-28.03

Lower Yellowstone Beet and Grain

Agricultural Reporting Area 9-28.03, Lower Yellowstone Beet and Grain (Garfield, McCone, Richland, Dawson, Prairie, Wibaux, Rosebud, Custer, Fallon, Powder River, and Carter Counties).

Should moisture content repeat that of 1964, employment requirements should be the same except there will be some adjustment on sugar beet acreages in the youth program. In irrigated areas there is little anticipated change. Local and migratory labor should be available for all activities including sugar beets.

The crop activities and approximate time periods involved are:

Crop Activities	Periods Involved
Spring soil preparation and seeding	April - May
Sugar beet thinning, hoeing, weeding	May - July
Haying	June - August
Irrigation	June - September
Fallowing	May - August
Small grain harvest	July - August
Sugar beet harvest	September - October
Livestock seasonal activities	January - December

AREA - 9-28.04

Triangle and Highline Hardwheat

Agricultural Reporting Area 9-28.04, Triangle and Highline Hard Wheat (Teton, Choteau, Cascade, Judith Basin, Hill, Blaine, Phillips, Valley, Daniels, Roosevelt, and Sheridan Counties.)

This is primarily a dryland wheat growing and livestock area. Should sufficient moisture be received as in 1964, the upsurge in employment may repeat. However, a dry year could make a difference. It is anticipated that local workers and voluntary in-migration of interstate workers will satisfy all demands for this area's activities.

It appears that the sugar beet acreage and the demand forlabor will be the same as 1964.

MILES CITY AREA

OPEN RANGE BRANDING

Crop Activities	Periods Involved
Spring soil preparation and seeding	April - May
Sugar beet thinning and hoeing	May - June
Haying	June - August
Irrigation	June - August
Small grain harvest	July - August
Fallowing	May - September
Sugar beet harvest	October
Livestock seasonal activities	January - December

Polson,Montana

CHERRY INDUSTRY

Cherry orchards in Lake County are famous for their abundant fruit and add immensely to the economy of this area.

Cherry orchards were started in this area more as a sideline and have continued to expand until now they bring to this area a million dollar business each year and continue to grow with new orchards being started and expansion of older orchards.

A cherry tree takes from 6-7 years to begin production and takes continual care to combat the fruit fly and various other insects. Cherries grown in this area consist mainly of Lamberts and Bings,with Vans,and Deacons as pollenizers. Royal Anne cherries are used mainly for marichino's and are shipped to California for processing. Some sour cherries are also grown in this area mostly for local consumption.

The trees are usually in full bloom the second week in May and about 60-70 days from that time the harvest begins. Pickers from Washington,Oregon,Idaho, and California migrate to this area and are employed from 10-14 days. These professional pickers can pick 500-900 pounds of cherries a day.

From the orchards these cherries are hauled to the packing plant where they are sorted and packed in shipping boxes,placed in refrigerated cars and shipped mainly to eastern markets.

The orchards employ between 200-300 workers during the harvest season and the warehouse between 150-200 workers for approximately 2 weeks.

The warehouse is owned and operated by the Flathead Sweet Cherry Growers Association and after the cherries are sold and processing and shipping costs deducted the growers are paid on a pro-rata basis for their cherries.

An estimated 29 cars of cherries are expected to be shipped from the Polson warehouse in 1964 which is a sizeable increase over the 19 cars shipped in the bumper year of 1962.

Table 1. Selected Data on Farm Placement Operations in 1964

Section A. Day-Haul Activities	
rated by State agency:	
Day-haul points	0
Towns with day-haul points	0
Sum of workers transported on average day in each town	0
Sum of workers transported on peak day in each town	0
tablished (unsupervised by State agency):	
Day-haul points	5
Towns with day-haul points	5
Sum of workers transported on average day in each town	124
Sum of workers transported on peak day in each town	215
Section B. Services to School age Youth	
ns in which separate school age youth programs are operated	0
-haul points operated separately for school age youth	0
Sum of school age youth workers transported on peak day in each town	0
-haul points established by State agency for school age youth	5
pervised camps operated for school age farm workers	0
Placements in camp	0
acements of school age youth in supervised live-in farm homes	0
Section C. Services to other special groups	
rvices rendered to Indians by local offices or itinerant points on servations:	
Placements	1573
Applicant holding acceptances	105
ner placements of reservation Indians	726
Section D. Special services to employers	
od processing employers receiving placement services	15
Section E. Other special services	
cal offices which held farm clinics	0
ays on which farm clinics were held	0
ssues of farm labor bulletins published	30
. Copies distributed	12,000
tate agency's work guides distributed	450
. Within reporting State	225
. To other States	225
cal offices participating in formal community service programs	9
olunteer farm placement representatives	150

POLSON AREA

Certified seed potatoes are one of the major activities in Lake County and provide many seasonal jobs for local people at a time when all other activities are at a standstill,which tends to help in stabilizing the economy of the local area.

Approximately 1068 acres of seed potatoes are grown in Lake County divided between 23 individual farms. Acreages vary from 10 acres to 300 acres.

The potato season begins in the springwith the cutting of potatoes for planting. Irrigating,cultivation and roguing comprise the bulk of the work then until about the end of September at which time the harvest begins.

The harvest is accomplished by mechanical diggers requiring 2-3 people on each machine to pick out rocks and debri from the conveyor belts. The potatoes are loaded into trucks and hauled to cellars located on individual farms,where they are stored until about February.

In February the cellars are opened up and preparations to market the potatoes are begun. This operation employ's several people who shovel potatoes onto a conveyor belt of the grading machine where more workers pick out spoiled potatoes,rocks,and dirt. From the grader they go into sacks and are weighed to 100 pounds,sewed shut,tagged with proper information,loaded onto trucks and hauled to railroad cars or loaded onto semi-trucks at the cellar.

Seed potatoes are sent mostly to Washington and Idaho with the larger potatoes being sold as baking potatoes.

SORTING & SACKING

Worksheet A. Day-haul activities, by town

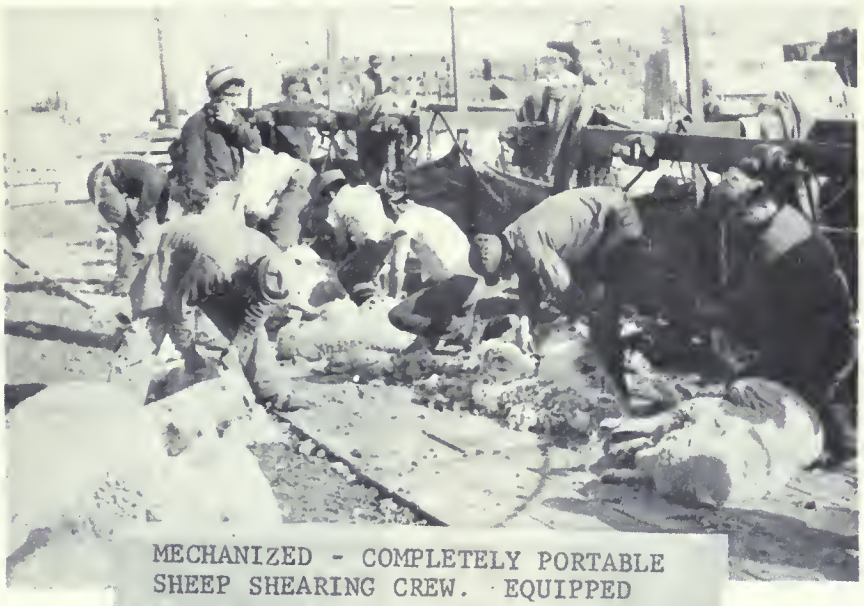
( ) 1. At points operated by State Agency

(X) 2. At points established (unsupervised) by State Agency

wns	Number of Day-Haul Points		Number of Workers Transported		
				Peak Day	
	Total	School Age Youth	Average Day	Total	School Age Youth
I	II	III	IV	V	VI
llings	1	1	45	95	95
dney	1	1	17	20	20
les City	1	1	6	6	6
ssoula	1	1	15	25	25
lena	1	1	41	69	69
			124	215	215

CREW LEADER - E.S. MANAGER
SHEEP SHEARING

SHELBY AREA



MECHANIZED - COMPLETELY PORTABLE
SHEEP SHEARING CREW. EQUIPPED
TO TRANSFER FACILITIES TO EMPLOYERS
IMMEDIATELY.

TEXAS SHEEP SHEARING
CREW IN ACTION

SHEEP RANCHER AND HER HIRED HAND
WATCH SHEEP SHEARING

MANY BAGS FULL

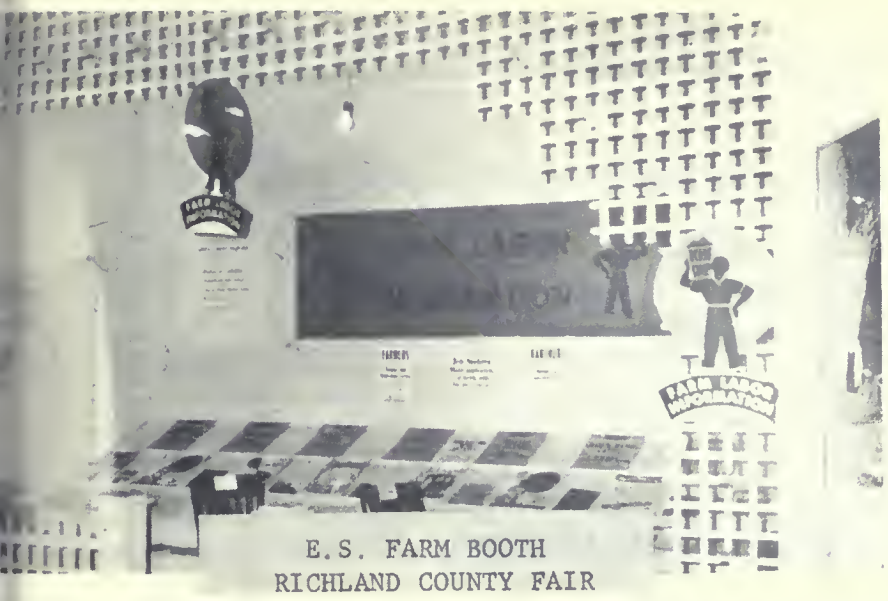
. DEPARTMENT OF LABOR
au of Employment Security
25 - Table 4 (12/61)

Budget Bureau No. 44-R779.6
State MONTANA

Table 4. Interstate Agricultural Migrant Activities in 1964

Section A	Migrant contacts		Section B Individuals represented	
Type	By Reporting State	With Reporting State's Residents	Age and Sex	In Sec. A., Col. III
I	II	III	I	II
Total	489	0	2. Total	0
a. Crew Leaders	209	0	a. Male, 16 & over	0
b. Family Heads	269	0	b. Female, 16 & over	0
c. Other	11	0	3. Under 16	0

Section C Worker Characteristics		Section D. Services rendered	
Type	Number	Type	Number
1	11	1	11
Families	718	7. Total	489
		a. Schedules by ES	296
Unattached males	253	b. Requests for action	1
		c. Other services	2
Unattached females	41	d. Validations	92
		e. Information only	98



E.S. FARM BOOTH
RICHLAND COUNTY FAIR

SIDNEY AREA

MECHANIZED BEET HARVEST

MORE EQUIPMENT-
LESS WORKERS-BEET HARVEST

DEPARTMENT OF LABOR
of Employment Security
ES-225 - Table 5 (1/59)

Budget Bureau No. 44-R779.7

State MONTANA

Table 5. Interstate Seasonal Agricultural Clearance Activities in 1964

Item	Orders		Openings	
	Extended (Sec A) received (Sec.B)	Filled	Extended (Sec. A) received (Sec. B)	Filled
I	II	III	IV	V
Section A. Reporting State as Order-Holding State				
eporting State, total	10	7	5268	3173
pplicant - holding tates involved:				
shington	2	1	57	7
xas	4	3	2209	525
egon-Washington	1	1	300	38
xas and Colorado	1	1	2100	2103
xas, New Mexico and Arizona	1	1	600	500
oming, North Dakota, Colorado, Arizona	1	0	2	0
Section B. Reporting State as Applicant-Holding State				
eporting State, total	13	8	2335	1126
rder-holding tates involved:				
lorado	1	1	160	6
diana	1	1	5	7
linois	1	1	1000	18
chigan	1	1	8	40
nnesota	1	0	350	0
rth Dakota	1	0	1	0
io	1	0	4	0
uth Dakota	1	0	1	0
ah	1	0	51	0
sconsin	1	1	665	965
egon	1	1	58	58
shington	1	1	18	18
aho	1	1	14	14

ure Jess C. Fletcher
Jess C. Fletcher

Title Director
Montana State Employment Service

Montana Farm Labor Bulletin

FARM PLACEMENT DIVISION
MONTANA STATE EMPLOYMENT SERVICE

U.C.C. Building — Helena, Montana
Phone 442-3260 — Ext. 540
TWX HL 1931

10M 4-62 99393

July 9, 1964 Special

SWEET CHERRY HARVEST

The Flathead Cherry Growers Association has reported the 1964 harvest will exceed the normal ten year average. Some orchards will exceed the banner harvest of 1962 and others will equal it.

With continued favorable growing conditions, the crop should be ready on or about July 25. Picking of pollinizers will commence ten days prior to the main harvest date of July 25.

The Cherry Growers Association voted to have an open picking rate with the minimum set at $.04 per pound.

The Montana State Employment Service will open a temporary office at Yellow Bay, East Shore Flathead Lake on July 12, 1964. In addition, workers can contact the Montana State Employment Service offices at 427 First Avenue East, Kalispell, Telephone 756-5071 or Salish Hotel Building, Polson, Telephone 883-2589

MONTANA STATE
PLOYMENT SERVICE
P. O. BOX 1728
HELENA, MONTANA

OFFICIAL BUSINESS

FIRST CLASS MAIL

EMPLOYMENT SECURITY MAIL
UNITED STATES POSTAGE
ACCOUNTED FOR UNDER
ACT OF CONGRESS

MONTANA CROP PRODUCTION - 1964

RECORD WINTER WHEAT SEEDINGS - Acreage of winter wheat seeded this fall for harvest in 1965 is estimated at 2,618,000 acres, the largest of record. These seedings are 28 percent more than a year ago and 21 percent above the 1959-63 average. Favorable soil moisture in late summer encouraged growers to seed to their full intentions for the first time in several years, especially in north central Montana where the droughty conditions were relieved by rainfall in May and June. Additional rains in this area during the summer restored soil moisture to near-normal. The current large acreage continues the upward trend in winter wheat which began more than three decades ago. Another factor considered by growers intending to comply next year was that ASCS regulations have been liberalized to permit substitution of wheat base acres for feed grain base acres, or growers had theother option of exceeding wheat allotments without penalty under specified conditions. The latter was intended to help high-risk areas by assuring reserves in case of drought.

Montana's 1965 winter wheat crop is indicated at 60,214,000 bushels based on December 1 conditions and acreage seeded this fall. A crop of this size would exceed 1964 production by 15 percent and would be 40 percent above the 5-year average. Yield per seeded acre is indicated at 23.0 bushels compared with 25.6 bushels in 1964.

RECORD MEAT OUTPUT CONTINUES Production of red meat during October by Montana's commercial slaughtering plants totaled 12,442,000 pounds (dressed basis). This marked the 4th consecutive month in which meat production exceeded all previous months. October meat output was 6 percent more than a month earlier and 25 percent more than October, 1963. Number of cattle killed increased 48 percent from a year earlier to a record 16,700 head. This was nearly 2½ times the number killed in October 10 years earlier. Red meat production in October this year consisted of 9,490,000 pounds of beef, up 50 percent from a year earlier; 2,870,000 pounds of lamb and mutton, and 49,000 pounds of veal.

POTATO STOCKS BELOW A YEAR EARLIER Stocks of potatoes held in storage by Montana growers on December 1 totaled 1,040,000 hundredweight. This is 17 percent less than the 1,260,000 hundredweight on hand December 1, 1963. The 1964 potato crop of 1,221,000 hundredweight was 14 percent smaller than the 1963 output.

Disappearance of this year's crop between the time of harvest and December 1, totaled 181,000 hundredweight, compared to 162,000 hundredweight for the corresponding period last year.

SUGAR BEET CROP THIRD LARGEST Montana's 1964 sugar beet production is estimated at 1,050,000 tons, on the basis of November 1 reports from growers. This is the third largest tonnage of record, being exceeded only by the crops of 1940 and 1963. This year's large output is chiefly the result of increased acreage. Expected yield per acre at 15.0 tons is slightly above the 1958-62 average but well below last year's record high of 17.8 tons.

POTATO PRODUCTION ABOVE AVERAGE The potato crop of 1,330,000 cwt is down 6 percent from last year but 5 percent above average. Harvesting of this crop progressed under ideal weather conditions and was completed by the end of October.

BEAN PRODUCTION DECLINES Dry bean production is expected to total 195,000 cwt. compared with 224,000 last year and the average of 213,000 cwt. A number of growers reported that September frosts reduced both yields and quality of this year's crop.

CORN CROP UNDER LAST YEAR Production of corn for grain is estimated at 275,000 bushels. This is 37 percent below last year but 50 percent above average.

Courtesty of Statistical
Reporting Service USDA

Montana Farm Labor Bulletin

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TWX HL 1931
10M 4-62 99393

August 12, 1964 — Number 20

WHEAT HARVEST BULLETIN

ENTRAL & TRIANGLE: Cut Bank - Tenative date of wheat harvest Aug 15. No starts noted to Wind and hot weather causing wheat to ripen very rapidly. Havre - Winter wheat and barley about 30 to 40% complete, most of this in southern half of local office area. Some areas ern Hill County and Northern Blaine to start this week. Spring wheat will be a week later. ent men and machines. Wages same as last week. Weather warm & windy. Shelby - Some cutting er wheat with early reports indicating yields of 25 to 40 bu. per acre with test weights o 62 lbs per bu. Main activity is swathing as fields have green spots. Full scale harvest art the end of this week with plenty of combine and truck operators at present. Wages $15 nd $20 combine. TRIANGLE & WEST N. CENTRAL: Great Falls - Grain harvest continues on a l scale with cutting being stopped due to green grain. Dutton-Power area getting started on ed scale and not expected to increase unless hot days continue. Lewistown - Winter wheat veraging about 35 bushels per acre and is about 50% completed. No shortage of labor at me. NORTHEAST: Glasgow - Combining of wheat and barley underway in southern 2/3 of county. rable loss in grain due to hail and winds has lessened the demand for men and machines. upply even with some shortage of well experienced combine operators. Wages $15 and up R&B. favorable. Wheat yields 25-30, barley 40-45 bu. Wolf Point - Harvest underway in all areas ek with exception of areas along Canadian border. Some stoppage caused by uneven ripening n. Supply of custom machines adequate; no surplus of harvest hands. EASTERN Glendive wheat harvest completed except for a few scattered fields, spring wheat and barley about pleted. Most of the farm hands and custom cutters have finished up and moved on to other Miles City - Wheat harvest in this area will be completed in next 2 or 3 days. Most all s have moved north. No demand for machines or men. Sidney - Combining of spring wheat pleted, winter wheat completed Custom combine crews are leaving this area. Yields d 30 to 35 bushel on winter wheat and 20 to 30 on spring wheat. SOUTH CENTRAL: Billings wheat harvest is approximately 80% complete with yields varying from 25 to 40 bushels per Spring wheat harvest is about 20% complete at this time. No hail damage to report. The of combine units has been adequate and a slight shortage of harvest hands exists in the ffice area. Bozeman - Cloudy and damp weather over the weekend stopped the grain harvest. tage at this time. No out of area custom combine being used.
the nearest local office before leaving area.

TERN

A: Main activities are gen ranch work, haying, irrigating, potato row weeding. Labor and demand balanced. Weather hot and dry.

Main activities haying, irrigation - a small amount of small grain harvest in the Whitehall Labor demand in balance. Movement of migrant workers has slowed down. Haying in Big Hole aring completion.

Main activities are haying, irrigating, herding, fencing and rod weeding. Weather has t with rain showers. Short 1 ranch mechanic $200 p/mo and up B&R.

N:- Main activities are sugar beet weeding and haying. Grain harvest is beginning but there l much green grain. Tart cherry picking delayed until Thursday or Friday, because of not ully ripe. Most farm work is $1.25 p/hr. Sugar beet weeding $8.75 to $10 p/acre. Cherry 2¢ per lb. Appears we have ample cherry pickers and there are 8 to 10 extra school boys le for haying. School starts Aug 24th might result in shortage of hay hands. Weather dry.

Winter wheat 50% harvested in this area. Spring and other small grains will be ready nter wheat is done. No men or machines needed in this area for harvest. Some irrigating y. Second cutting of hay is just getting underway and should be in full swing the latter

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MONTANA ASC INFORMATION

This year will be remembered by many as the year of the flood, and now--the blizzard. The helping hand of ASC has been a valued assistant in the reclamation of much flood-damaged land. The sight of starving livestock hurrying through deep snow to reach hay dropped to them plainly told of their appreciation. You can recall with pride the role ASC played in helping people and their stock during these disasters.

SUGAR PROGRAM

Again in 1964 sugar beet growers produced without governmental limitations. Acreage was up considerably as compared with recent years but tonnage was down in comparison with 1963's outstanding crop. Since sugar payments for complying with child labor and fair wage requirements are based on tonnage, payments are down from last year, too. Here are some comparative figures:

Year	Planted Acres	Tons of Beets	Payment
1964	71,024 Est.	972,496	$2,300,000 Est.
1963	65,759	1,162,682	2,740,160
1962	64,107	839,548	2,128,124

Payments are now being made to growers in all factory districts. Proportionate shares will be employed in 1965 to limit acreage. This is being done at the request of growers and processors because total sugar production has been in excess of the amount which may be marketed under present quota leigslation. Montana's share of the national limitation will be 63,173 acres. Procedures are being developed to apportion this among eligible growers who file requests for shares (allotments) by January 15, 1965.

Courtesy Montana ASC Letter

Recruitment of Farm Workers

1. The commencement date for youth workers was from June 2 to June 17, 1964

   For other domestics was May 10 to June 29, 1964

   For Nationals was May 19 to May 28, 1964

2. The season's work terminated for youth June 26 to July 2, 1964.

   For other domestics July 14 to July 27, 1964.

   For Nationals July 16 to July 27, 1964

3. Total youth employed were 215.

   Total of other domestics were 3,173.

   Total Nationals were 1372

   Total Indians 26

   In addition there were about 60 Kickapoo Indians with the Texas Mexicans.

4. Most youth working at one time were 124.

   Most domestics were 2893

   Most Nationals were 1372

5. The size of youth crews ranged from 3 to 20. The average was 11.

6. The lowest wage earned by youth was 15¢ hour

   the lowest average wage was 33⅓¢ hour

7. The highest wage earned by youth was $1.47½ hour

   The highest average was $1.39 hour

8. The average wage earned by youth was 78¢ hour

9. The average acreage worked by youth was 3.02 acres.

   For other domestics it was 14.51 acres.

   For Nationals it was 20 acres.

10. The total acreage worked by youth was 141.6

    For other domestics 31,813

    For Nationals 28,430.

11. Comments:

Total acres worked were 60,384.6 a reduction of 3,442.7 from last year. Total Mexican Nationals worked were 1372 a reduction of 836 from last year. Total Mexican domestics worked were 3173 an increase of 747 over last year. Total youth worked were 215 a reduction of 14 from last year.

The Sugar Co. in four local office areas dispensed with the use of Mexican Nationals as Mexican Domestics were available. The Sugar Co. in three other local office areas dispensed with ordering Mexican Nationals in the event they were needed. They too found Mexican Domestics available as in prior years.

Montana has sufficient domestic labor potential to replace Mexican Nationals provided working incentives materialize in comparison to other agricultural activities.

Supervision for the youth program was varied with adult supervison the most successful. Grower supervision was used in some local office areas and the Employment Service conducted overall supervision.

Transportation was furnished by growers but in most all cases fields were close to town. Three local offices were unable to promote a youth program due to the resistance from growers on the transportation problem.

Weather conditions were detrimental to success of youth program in some areas. Heavy rains caused excessive weed growth and reduced earnings in a few areas.

To summarize it is agreed by all concerned that the youth program should continue as long as hand labor is needed or replaced by mechanization.

CORN HARVEST-BILLINGS AREA

CORN HARVEST-BILLINGS AREA